

Theme: The fully blessed life is given lavishly by God to the person who fears the Lord, delights in His Word, grows in godly character, and focuses on serving others.

I. Intro – Sequels

- A. Some movies have same characters but not sequels
- B. Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom - not a sequel
- C. Most Psalms are like that - standalone
- D. Lord of the Rings - real sequels!
- E. Psalm 112 is the sequel to Psalm 111 - go together
- F. I will refer to Ps. 111 to help those who missed last week

II. The Clear Links Between Psalm 111 and 112

- A. Literary links between Psalm 111 and Psalm 112
 - 1. Both Psalms have the Hallelu-Yah heading
 - 2. 111 ends with the fear of LORD; 112 begins with it
 - 3. Both Psalms are acrostics
 - 4. There is a lot of common vocabulary
- B. Common vocabulary (in Hebrew)
 - 1. Words - fear, delight, upright, justice/just, remembered, heart, steady/established, given/provides
 - 2. Phrases - identical in Hebrew; same verse in Psalm!
 - a. Praise the LORD! (v1)
 - b. And his righteousness endures forever (v3)

- c. Gracious and merciful (v4)

III. The Blessedness of Godliness

- A. The Psalm is a portrait of the blessed life
 - 1. The first line in the acrostic is “blessed” (v1)
 - 2. The variety of blessings listed in Psalm 112:
 - a. Family - offspring; generation (v2)
 - b. Finances - wealth and riches (v3)
 - c. Character - righteousness, gracious, merciful (vv 3, 4, 9)
 - d. Reputation - remembered; horn, honor (vv6, 9)
 - e. Psychological/emotional - heart firm (vv6-8)
 - f. During trouble - darkness; news; adversaries (vv4,7,8)
 - g. Blessed future - offspring, forever (vv2,3,6,9)
 - h. This is a blessed individual!!!
 - 3. Blessing is linked with godliness
 - a. Fears God, delights (v1) - [Psalm 1]
 - b. Righteous - 3 times! (vv3,4, 9)
 - c. Character like LORD - same terms as in Ps 111
 - 1. Righteousness endures forever (v3,9; 111:3)
 - 2. Gracious and merciful (v4; 111:4)
 - 3. Just actions (v5; 111:7)

4. Gives freely (v9; 111:5) - same Hebrew

d. Emphasis on godly actions

1. Deals generously; lends; conducts, justice (v5)

2. Distributed freely; given to poor (v9) [2 Cor 9:9]

B. The root of godliness - relationship with Jesus!

1. The root of this is the fear of the LORD (v1)

2. The root of this is delighting in His commands (v1)

3. The root is trusting the LORD (v7)

4. The root is remembering God's redemption (Ps 111)

5. The roots - as always - is the Gospel!!!!

6. As we behold Him, we become like Him!!!

IV. Applying the Word

A. Do I want a life full of God's blessing?

1. If I really want it - Ps 112 shows where it is found

2. Do I know & fear the LORD? Is He my Redeemer?

3. Remember - the Root is relationship with Jesus!

4. Do I delight in His Word, letting it fill my life?

5. Am I growing in godly character, becoming like Jesus?

6. If I am not walking in this path - I DO NOT WANT IT!

B. Do I see the blessed life is not self-centered?

1. It is focused on God, His kingdom, and His church

2. This will OFTEN require dying to my desires

3. It is a life focused on others - not just myself

4. This will OFTEN require short term sacrifice

5. It is a life focused on future generations - not just the present moment

6. This will OFTEN require short term sacrifices

7. But if we lose our life - we find TRUE LIFE!

8. If we pour ourselves out, God fills us up!

C. A prayer for God's power & blessing

The Blessed Life of Godliness

Psalm 112

July 17, 2011

Prayer

Psalm 128:5-6

Words: fear, delight, upright, justice/just, remembered, heart, steady/established, given/provides

3 Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.
9 He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever;
his horn is exalted in honor.

Psalms 112:3, 9

3 Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

Psalms 111:3

4 Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

Psalms 112:4

4 He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

Psalms 111:4

5 It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
who conducts his affairs with justice.

Psalms 112:5

7 The works of his hands are faithful and just;

Psalms 111:7

9 He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever;
his horn is exalted in honor.

Psalms 112:9

5 He provides food for those who fear him;

Psalms 111:5

May the LORD bless you from Zion
all the days of your life;
may you see the prosperity of His people,
and may you live to see your children's children.

Peace be upon you.

Psalms 128:5–6

1 Praise the LORD!

Blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
who greatly delights in his commandments!

2 His offspring will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches are in his house,
and his righteousness endures forever.

4 Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

5 It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;
who conducts his affairs with justice.

6 For the righteous will never be moved;
he will be remembered forever.

7 He is not afraid of bad news;
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

8 His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,
until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.

9 He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever;
his horn is exalted in honor.

10 The wicked man sees it and is angry;
he gnashes his teeth and melts away;
the desire of the wicked will perish!

Psalms 112:1–10